



MEDIA RELEASE

Tucson Fire Department

Fire Chief Dan Newburn



Contact: Captain Trish Tracy

Date: 6/12/2008

Fireworks... Extremely Dangerous and Illegal in Arizona

According to the National Fire Prevention Association, more fires are reported on July 4th than any other day of the year, and fireworks account for half of those fires.

- In 2005 fireworks accounted for more than 1800 structure fires and 700 automobile fires reported to fire departments.
- These 2500 fires resulted in an estimated 60 injuries and \$39 million dollars in property damage.
- In 2006 U.S. hospitals treated an estimated 9,200 people for firework related injuries. Of these 49% were to the extremities (hands, fingers etc.) and 46% were to the head.
- One third of all people injured by fireworks were under the age of 15.
- More than 5,000 children ages 14 and under are treated in emergency rooms for firework-related injuries each year nationally.
- Sparklers, fountains and novelties alone accounted for more than 28% of the emergency room fireworks injuries in 2006.
- Sparklers can burn up to 2000 degrees Fahrenheit and are extremely dangerous as they pose a severe burn risk to eyes and skin.
- Tell children that they should leave the area immediately if their friends are using fireworks.
- Discuss fire safety with your children. Teach children to “stop, drop and roll” if their clothes catch fire. Make sure they know how to call 9-1-1.

The Tucson Fire Department would like to remind everyone that fireworks are illegal in Arizona. It is against the law in Arizona to sell, use, explode, or even possess fireworks. Firework displays and events must receive a permit from the [Arizona State Fire Marshal](#).

The Tucson Fire Department strongly recommends that you leave the fireworks to the professionals. The city sponsors an annual July 4th firework demonstration on “A” mountain, and certifies several private displays throughout the city.

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